



COMDTINST 1531.2A  
Oct.9, 1997

COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 1531.2A

Subj: COAST GUARD ACADEMY PREPARATORY PROGRAM

Ref: (a) COMDTINST M1000.6, Personnel Manual, Section 1-E

1. PURPOSE. This Instruction provides information on and solicits applications from Coast Guard enlisted personnel to attend the Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS).
2. ACTION. Area and district commanders, commanders of maintenance and logistics commands, unit commanding officers, and officers in charge shall ensure eligible personnel are made aware of this program. Women and minority members should especially be encouraged to apply.
3. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. Commandant Instruction 1531.2 is hereby canceled.
4. DISCUSSION.
  - a. The Coast Guard has participated in the U. S. Navy's NAPS Program since 1978. The course of instruction at NAPS is designed to provide qualified personnel with an appointment to the Coast Guard Academy. Coast Guard personnel participate in the same challenging 10 month program as their Navy and Merchant Marine counterparts. Reference (a) describes the cadet appointment process.
  - b. NAPS is operated by the Navy at the Naval Education and Training Center, Newport, Rhode Island. There are approximately 325 students attending NAPS each year with 40 billets designated for the Coast Guard. Nearly a quarter of the Coast Guard billets are filled by enlisted members; the rest are civilian applicants from the Academy's Admissions pool

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- c. NAPS is mentally and physically demanding; the daily routine strongly emphasizes academic study, military leadership, and athletics. There are scheduled classroom sessions in math, science, English, and computers. To be successful at NAPS, and later at the Academy, a person must be fully committed to the five year program of study.
5. ELIGIBILITY. NAPS applicants must meet the following criteria (no waivers):
- a. All candidates must take either the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT I), or the American College Testing Assessment (ACT). Standardized tests should have been administered prior to 1 January of the year of application to NAPS. The Academy has no established minimum scores on the standardized tests; however, past successful candidates typically score in excess of 1050 combined math and verbal on the SAT I, or a composite of 22 on the ACT. Additionally, since the Academy uses only the highest scores on these tests, applicants are encouraged to retake these exams to improve their opportunity of selection.
  - b. Not have reached their 22nd birthday by 1 July of the year of admittance.
  - c. Be a U. S. Citizen or have acquired citizenship by 1 July of the year of admittance.
  - d. Be unmarried and have no legal or financial obligation from a previous marriage and/or dependent children.
  - e. Have little or no financial debt (upon completing NAPS and enrolling at the Academy, former enlisted personnel are paid the cadet monthly allowance, approximately \$560.00 per month, much of which offsets the cost of books, uniform items, and other related expenses).
  - f. Be a high school graduate or have earned a GED equivalency certificate.
  - g. Have no serious UCMJ or civil convictions.
  - h. Meet the Department of Defense Medical Exam Review Board (DODMERB) requirements.
  - i. Command endorsements are required on all military applicants.
  - j. If selected, enlisted personnel must have, or agree to extend for two years of obligated service in an active duty status as of 15 June of the year of admittance.

6. PROCEDURE. Enlisted personnel interested in NAPS must apply and complete all the requirements for regular appointment to the Academy. Enlisted members not selected for direct entry to the Academy are automatically considered for NAPS. Notification of selection to NAPS is normally announced by an ALDIST message in June. The initial application deadline is 15 December. The initial application can be obtained by calling 1-800-883-8724 or writing:

Director of Admissions  
U. S. Coast Guard Academy  
15 Mohegan Ave.  
New London, CT 06320-4195

After the initial application is received by the Academy, a package of supplemental forms will be mailed to prospective candidates. The deadline for the submission of the supplemental forms is 30 January.

/s/ G.F. WOOLEVER  
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